

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 10 (D), (e) and (h) of Article 25B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Home Rule for Code Counties," subtitle "Enactment of Local Laws," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

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(D) A BILL MAY BE INTRODUCED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON ANY LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY. NOT LATER THAN THE NEXT CALENDAR DAY FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BILL, THAT SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN SEVEN CALENDAR DAYS AFTER ITS INTRODUCTION; BUT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY REJECT ANY BILL ON ITS INTRODUCTION WITHOUT A HEARING BY A VOTE OF AT LEAST ~~FOUR-FIFTHS~~ *TWO-THIRDS* OF ITS TOTAL MEMBERSHIP. THE HEARING MAY BUT NEED NOT BE HELD ON A LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY AND MAY BE ADJOURNED FROM TIME TO TIME. AFTER A PUBLIC HEARING, A BILL MAY BE FINALLY PASSED ON A LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY WITH OR WITHOUT AMENDMENT; BUT IF A BILL IS AMENDED BEFORE FINAL PASSAGE, IT SHALL NOT BE PASSED UNTIL IT IS REPRINTED OR REPRODUCED AS AMENDED.

(e) Upon introduction of an emergency bill the president of the board of county commissioners shall schedule a public hearing thereon, which shall not be less than three calendar days after its introduction. The public hearing may but need not be held on a legislative session day and may be adjourned from time to time. After public hearing, the bill may be passed with or without amendment on a legislative session day by an affirmative vote of at least four-fifths of the total membership of the board of county commissioners *or two-thirds where total Board membership is three members*. Emergency bills which are amended are not subject to the requirement for reprinting or reproduction contained in subsection (d) of this section.

(h) Any public local law enacted by the board of county commissioners of a code county shall take effect forty-five days after it is enacted, unless by a provision of the public local law it is to take effect at a later date. If a public local law is passed as an emergency bill or if a bill is declared by at least a four-fifths vote of the total membership of the board of county commissioners *or two-thirds where total Board membership is three members* to be an emergency bill affecting the public health, safety, or welfare of the county, the law shall take effect from the date of its passage. The term "emergency bill" shall not include one abolishing or creating any office, changing any salary, term, or duty of any officer, granting any franchise or special privilege or creating any vested right or interest.

(1) The citizens of a code county, by petition, may submit to the registered voters of the county any public local law or portion thereof enacted under this subtitle. The submission shall be at the next regu-